(*b*) by how much was it reduced; and

(*c*) the immediate cause for such a reduction?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: (*a*) No.

(*b*) & (*c*) In view of the answer to part (*a*), these questions do not arise.

Price of Salt.

174 *MR. KANNANTHODATH JANARDANAN NAIR: Will the Government be pleased to state the latest price of salt, at Nagercoil, Trivandrum Adoor, Pathanamthitta, Quilon, Kottayam and Parur?

MR. P. G. NARAYANAN UNNITHAN: A *statement is appended.

Graduate Teachers in the Education Department.

175 *MR. S. NARAYANA PILLAI (*Quilon* cum *Kottarakara*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of graduate teachers recruited to the Education Department prior to the date of standardisation who did not get the benefits of the pre-standardisation scale of pay;

(*b*) the number of such teachers who held substantive posts and had put in an aggregate acting service in acting vacancies of one year on the date of the standardisation G. O.; and

(*c*) the number of such teachers without substantive posts and who had put in an aggregate acting service of three years before the date of the standardisation G. O.?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: (*a*) 51

(*b*) 10.

(*c*) 9.

Compulsory Primary education in the State.

176 *MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Government have before them any scheme for the introduction of compulsory primary education in the State?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: No.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know whether Government are aware that the introduction of compulsory primary education is very necessary?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: Government are fully aware of it.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: Then, may I know why no steps were taken in that direction?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: The question was fully considered on a former occassion and the Government gave the House an assurance that a scheme leading to cent per cent literacy would be considered and adopted.

MR. P. KUNJUKRISHNAN: May I know whether Government have any scheme at present for effecting this?

MR. A. GOPALA MENON: Government are now pursuing a policy of expansion of primary and adult education.

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* *Vide* Appendix IX, page.

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